# BOOKS AND AUTHORS—REVIEWS AND COMMENT

### VIEWS AND REVIEWS OF CURRENT FICTION

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THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGER

and celebrated it books. He saw it recede re the onslaught of a mere vital generation, its retreat in "The control of Silas Lapham's r. Howella's "Haz." The new state im, the lack of a, the relentless cost of others.

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cause she hadn't had any practice in it.
After a week's practice it wouldn't give

stement and storm to that it to the control of the

thor goes sometimes dar-ingly far, yet his frankness is ever bound about with delicacy. His realism is justified in his sincerity.— New York World.

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man who "lets I dare not wait upon I would," who, deems the cost too high for the value of what he would receive. for the value of what he would receive. It is the woman who, loving him, knows him so well, who forces the decision from him. A study in disillusion this, with its gray aftermath of the ever-present consciousness of the one chance of happiness rejected, of the aftermath lived in the presence of the woman who, too, goes her gray, conventional, loveless way.

Mrs. Wharton's third venture into this field in the volume. "The Choice," is less satisfactory, for one thing because she leaves unexplained the rich

is less satisfactory, for one thing because she leaves unexplained the rich
woman's choice of the bounder she has
married, and, in the second place, because, for once, she relies too much
than is quite fair upon the reader's
collaboration. Collaboration between
nuthor and reader there must always
be—it is the great secret of successful
authorship—but the division of labor
must be more equable than it is here.
There are two stories of the supernatural, one of a seventeenth-century
French château, the other of an Ameri-

Man started wrong on the road in sideration, the relentless alth at the cost of others. Howing after Tolstoy, his will as his artistic masses resultant rebuilding of through the greater part by career Mr. Howells has the limits of his habitates, torian—a historical novelense in which he once acause in which he once acause as the greatest velist of England. The historian of America in hecentury will do well to instorical romance to place beside the instorical romance to place beside the interest of the results of the remarks of the surface and the remarks of the surface and the remarks of work, picturesque as fiction and no dework, picturesque as fiction and no dever since, for in the humorist's fatally with the secolofful as a page of practically unknown American history. Of the congrice of revolutions which in the tearly part of the nineteenth century turned the Spanish dependencies in South America into republics of a sort, into the independent foundations, at least, of the great and growing commonwealths of to-day, we know only the barest outline; little more, in fact, than the name of Bolivar. It is the special of the achievements of the second of the second of work, picturesque as fiction and no of work, picturesque as fiction and no deword works, picturesque as fiction and no of work, picturesque as fiction and no deword works and productions which in the early part of the nineteenth century turned the Spanish dependencies in South America into republics of the south America into republics of the same countries of the states flatly, should at any given the achieve and the productions which is the scale of work, picturesque as fiction and no of work, picturesque as fiction and no of work, picturesque as fiction and no of work, picturesque as fiction a

As for the story, it starts with the promise of becoming another satirical completion with perfect command of historical romance to place beside the historical romance to place beside the "Yankee at King Arthur's Court," that magnificent American survey of the distance travelled by mankind away from tance ness, their ignorance, their unfitness for all but the outward semblance of self-government, an autocrat who ruled is certainly better than Mr. Gilbert with an iron hand, who sought to de-The try, who executed whoever dared to ives in oppose him, and who, amid endless attastian tempts at assassination, shore a charmed life. A man of genius far adman greater than his opportunities of time and country, whose services have been in lash too generally forgotten in the remeivable of his ruthless severities.

The try, who executed whoever dared to it does, much the same ground in much the same manner it has an air of being rather superfluous. Butler is steadily finding his appropriate readers, who, in general, are not the kind of pervention.

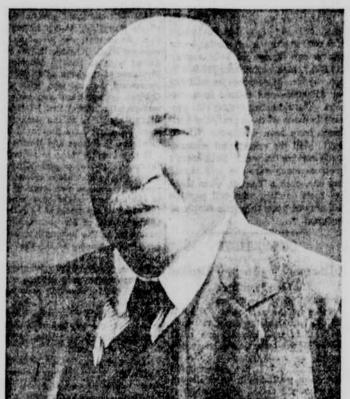
Mr. White draws his picture for us instruction. What is needed about instruction. What is needed about

without concealing his weaknesses, his further information. We want his life tion of the lives of those who disobeyed his commands. A lonely man, arrosh, and without taking any presence and it had a dangerous look, beshe hadn't had any practice in it. It is the way we are y trouble. It is the way we are



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are the condiments rather than the staple of life. There comes a time when we are tired of clowers

no doubt in earnest, but his propaganda danger at the moment is that an inis not strengthened or made clearer by genious critic is being set up as an in-the extraordinary complications of his fallible creed. Butler is becoming an

#### SAMUEL BUTLER

A Note of Moderation Among Many Enthusiasms

Reviewing John F. Harris's study of

Mr. White draws his picture for us understandingly, sympathetically, but without concealing his weaknesses, his

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On the afternoons of November 15 and 16 the Anderson Galleries will offer for sale the first of the five sections of the collection of books inscribed by their authors made by James Carleton Young, of Minneapolis. This unique library is more than complete in the department of American literature, since it contains some autographed books by authors whom fame has not yet overtaken. The foreign authors represented are, with scarcely an exception, of international fame.

The library of H. V. Jones, the pub-lisher of "The Minneapolis Journal," will be placed on exhibition at the Anwill be placed on exhibition at the Anderson Galleries previous to its sale on the afternoon and evening of November 20. Among the important items catalogued are two Books of Hours, a curious manuscript of the Koran, MSS, by Moore, Byron, Stevenson and Yeats, the complete MS, of Mark Twain's "A Curious Experience," a copy of Burns's poems with an autograph letter and corrections and annotations by the poet and original drawings by Cruikshank, Leech and Rowlandson.

fallible creed. Butler is becoming an establishment, with votaries who demand from all sorts and conditions of men just one attitude of worship. This will never do. Butler is a critical, not a creative, spirit. His penetrating keenness, his mental ingenuity, his irreverent candor and his grim, almost malicious, humor, are all very rare and precious qualities; but they are the condiments rather than the others, and by his very extensive pur-chases at important public sales, like that of the Hoe library, Henry E. Huntington, of this city, became the Huntington, of this city, became the owner of the largest and finest private library in the world. The work of sorting, arranging, classifying and cataloguing these great collections has been under way for a year or more. In March last the Anderson Galleries sold a large number of the duplicates from Mr. Huntington's library, and it now announces a second sale, this time of books printed in the French language, many of which were formerly in famous collections. The books will not be placed on exhibition till November 16. The sale will be held on November 21 and 22.

This collection is notable for beauty of printing, illustration and binding. staple of life. There comes a time when we are tired of cleverness and malice and irreverence and satire; and what we want then is something that what we want then.
Butler cannot give.
Butler called himeslf the "enfant terrible" of literature and science. How far he was terrible I shall not discuss:

at enfant he certainly was. He cheeked" the universe as an urchin ceks the solemn citizen. I feel sure was the identical candid and coura-cous little boy who blurted out the of printing, illustration and binding.
All the great modern French binders cous little boy who blurted out the ruth about the Emperor's new clothes, the child was father of the critic. A reative mind can see that man, like the poor deluded Emperor, has beneath is follies a soul capable of suffering ad repentance. Butler noticed chiefly the nakedness of mankind.

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in the States of New York, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and New Jersey. They were asked to name the candidates they voted for in 1912 and for whom they would vote next Tuesday. More than 30,000 have responded.

In THE LITERARY DIGEST for November 4th the result of this canvass is shown.

Several significant phases are apparent, and the article teems with interest. There are many other articles of importance in this number, among which are:

## What the Somme Drive Is Driving At

A Consideration of the Allied Offensive-What It Has Accomplished and What Is Its Ultimate Objective-Presenting the View-points of Swiss, German, and British Authorities

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